

Independent claim 77 includes all of the limitations of claim 39 and recites that the brush holder is located between the clutch and the brush to separate the clutch from the brush. This feature is supported in the drawings. For example, Fig. 2 shows that the brush holder 16 is located between the clutch 21 and the brush 17 to separate the clutch 21 from the brush 17. When the commutator 15 is rotated, the brush 17 is worn due to the friction between the commutator 15 and the brush 17, which generates the abrasion particles. If the abrasion particles enter the clutch 21, the movement of the clutch 21 is not smooth. However, in the claimed invention, the brush holder 16 is located between the clutch 21 and the brush 17 to separate the clutch 21 from the brush 17. This prevents the abrasion particles from entering the clutch 21, which maintains the smooth movement of the clutch 21. The cited references lack to disclose or suggest the claimed invention, and therefore independent claim 77 and dependent claims 78-97, which depend on claim 77, are patentable over the cited references.

Independent claim 98 includes all of the limitations of claim 39 and recites that the driving rotor directly contacts the driven rotor in the rotating direction of the driving rotor when the driving rotor rotates. That is, as shown in Figs. 7(a) and 7(b), when the driving rotor 23 rotates, the driving rotor 23 directly presses the driven rotor 25 in the rotating direction of the driving rotor 23 to directly transmit rotation of the driving rotor 23 to the driven rotor 25. Since the driven rotor 25 is directly engaged with the driving rotor 23, a large contact area can be ensured between both rotors 23, 25. Therefore, the strength required for both rotors 23, 25 can be reduced (see specification, page 26, line 25 to page 27, line 5). The cited references lack to disclose or suggest the claimed invention, and therefore independent claim 98 and dependent claim 99, which depends on claim 98, are patentable over the cited references.

Independent claim 100 includes part of the limitations of claim 21 and allowable subject matter of claim 29. That is, claim 100 recites a ball located between an end face of the rotating shaft and the clutch. Therefore, independent claim 100 and dependent claims 101-105, which depend on claim 100, are patentable over the cited references.

Independent claim 106 includes all of the limitations of claim 39 and allowable subject matter of claim 47. That is, claim 106 recites a support member for supporting the rolling bodies to hold a relative positional relationship of the rolling bodies. Therefore,

independent claim 106 and dependent claims 107-109, which depend on claim 106, are patentable over the cited references.

Also, new claims 53-109 have been drafted to overcome the 112 rejections to claims 28, 36 and 50.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



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